Alternate arrangements in the event of rejection of A-320 aircraft for carrying passenger traffic

54. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision regarding A-320 aircraft;

(b) what are the recommendations of the Committee appointed by the Ministry in this connection;

(c) what alternate arrangements are proposed to be made by Government in the event of rejection of A-320 aircraft for carrying passenger traffic; and

(d) what is the total loss to the Indian Airlines due to the grounding of A-320 aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (c) The question of resumption of operations of the A-320 aircraft and of taking further delivery of the A-320 aircraft is under consideration.

(b) The interim report of the Ramdas Committee is under the consideration of of the Government.

(d) The operating loss on account of suspension of the operations of the A-320 aircraft is estimated to be Rs. 2.55 crores per week.

Steps to reduce the consumption of petrol and Petroleum Products

55. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government plan to reduce the consumption of petrol and petroleum products;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in that direction; and

(c) whether the consumption of petrol has come down after the increase of the price of petrol and petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI BHAJMAN BEHERA): (a) and (b) Government attached high priority to the conservation of petrol and petroleum products.

Besides the fiscal measures, the other measures taken to curb the consumption of petroleum products include:

(1) Upgradation of technology to manufacture fuel efficient vehicles and revision of fuel efficiency norms.

(2) Standardisation of bus chassis and design of bus bodies.

(3) Replacement of inefficient oil fired boilers with efficient ones;

(4) Fuel oil utilisation studies in industrial units and in the State Road Transport Organisations for adopting more efficient practices;

(5) Implementation of integrated energy audit in major consuming industries;

(6) Development of fuel/energy efficient lubricants;

(7) Development of fuel efficient equipment and devices vis. kerosene/LPG stoves etc; and

(8) Rectification of diesel operated pump sets.

(c) The price of petrol and diesel were increased from 20th March 1990. It is too early to assess the impact of recent price increase on consumption of petrol and petroleum products.

Increase in the rates of electricity by DESU

56. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking propose to increase rates of electricity in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor?